

Acronyms and abbreviations

AST	above-ground storage tank	LNAPL	light, non-aqueous phase liquid
AWQC	Ambient water quality criteria for the protection of aquatic life	LOEL	lowest observed effects level
bgs	below ground surface	m	meter
BHC	benzene hexachloride	m³/second	cubic meter per second
BNA	base, neutral, and acid-extractable organic compounds	µg/g	micrograms per gram (ppm)
BOD	biological oxygen demand	µg/kg	micrograms per kilogram (ppb)
BSL	brine sludge lagoon	µg/L	micrograms per liter (ppb)
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980	µR/hr	microroentgens per hour
CERCLIS	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Information System	mg	milligram
cfs	cubic feet per second	mg/kg	milligrams per kilogram (ppm)
cm	centimeter	mg/L	milligrams per liter (ppm)
COC	contaminant of concern	mR/hr	milliroentgens per hour
COD	chemical oxygen demand	NAPL	non-aqueous phase liquid
COE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	NFA	no further action
CRC	Coastal Resource Coordinator	NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
DDD	dichlorodiphenyldichloroethane	NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
DDE	dichlorodiphenyldichloroethylene	NPL	National Priorities List
DDT	dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane	OU	operable unit
DNAPL	dense non-aqueous phase liquid	PAH	polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbon
DNT	dinitrotoluene	PA/SI	Preliminary Assessment/Site Investigation
DOD	U.S. Department of Defense	PCB	polychlorinated biphenyl
DOI	U.S. Department of the Interior	PCE	perchloroethylene (aka tetrachloroethylene)
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	pCi/g	picocuries per gram
ERL	Effects Range - Low	PCP	pentachlorophenol
ERM	Effects Range - Median	PNRS	Preliminary Natural Resource Survey
HMX	cyclotetramethylene tetranitramine	ppb	parts per billion
HRS	Hazard Ranking System	ppm	parts per million
HUC	Hydrologic Unit Code	ppt	parts per thousand or parts per trillion
kg	kilogram	PRP	Potentially Responsible Party
km	kilometer	PVC	polyvinyl chloride
L	liter	RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
		RD/RA	Remedial Design/Remedial Action
		RDX	cyclonite
		RI/FS	Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study

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ROD	Record of Decision
SARA	Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986
SVOC	semi-volatile organic compound
TCA	1,1,1-trichloroethane
TCE	trichloroethylene
TCL	Target Compound List
TNT	trinitrotoluene
TPH	total petroleum hydrocarbons
TSS	total suspended solids
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey
UST	underground storage tank
VOC	volatile organic compound
<	less than
>	greater than

Glossary of terms

Anadromous Migrating from marine waters to breed in freshwater. Examples of anadromous fish include salmon, river herring (alewife), and striped bass.

Catadromous Living in fresh water but migrating to marine waters to breed. An example is the American eel.

Chemical affinity An attraction or force between particles that causes them to combine.

Contaminant partitioning In general, it is the tendency of a contaminant to be in the air, water, soil, or sediment based on the relative chemical affinities of that contaminant.

Hectare 2.471 acres or 10,000 square meters (m²).

HUC Hydrologic Unit Code. The U.S. is divided into hydrologic units for water-resources planning and data management. Hydrologic units represent natural and human-imposed stream-drainage areas. Each HUC is a unique eight-digit number.

The first two digits indicate the major geographic area or region, the second two digits indicate the sub-region, the third two digits indicate the accounting units, and the fourth two digits indicate the cataloging units. Cataloging units are also called "watersheds."

NPL National Priorities List (NPL) is a list of sites where hazardous wastes have been found and the initial evaluation shows a significant risk to human health or the environment. NPL sites are often called "Superfund sites" because Superfund money can be used by EPA to investigate and cleanup these sites.

Superfund Money collected from a special tax on chemicals and raw petroleum that is appropriated by Congress. These funds are used to investigate, evaluate, and clean up the worst hazardous waste sites in the U.S. These sites are listed on the NPL.

Trustee Responsible for maintaining the original characteristics of our land, water, and the plants and animals that live there. NOAA is a federal trustee for natural resources that spend any portion of their life cycle in a marine or estuarine environment; and their habitats.

Watershed The region draining into a river, river system, or other body of water.